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Open-ended Working Group on Ageing
Sixth working session
New York, 14-16 July 2015
Agenda item 7
Adoption of the report

Draft report

Rapporteur: Alan **Cordina** (Malta)

Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Open-ended Working Group on Ageing held its sixth working session at United Nations Headquarters from 14 to 16 July 2015. The Working Group held meetings.

2. The session was opened by the Chair of the Working Group, Mateo Estrémé (Argentina).

B. Attendance

3. The session was attended by representatives of ____ States Members of the United Nations. Representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations also attended. A list of participants is available from http://social.un.org/ageing-working-group/sixthsession.shtml.

C. Election of officers

4. At its 1st meeting, on 14 July, the Working Group elected, by acclamation, Alan Cordina (Malta) as Vice-Chair to fill the vacancy following the resignation of Iakovos Iakovidis (Greece).

5. At the same meeting, the Working Group agreed to the designation of the Vice-Chair (Malta) as the Rapporteur for its sixth working session.

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D. Agenda and organization of work

6. At its 1st meeting, on 14 July, the Working Group adopted the provisional agenda, as contained in document A/AC.278/2015/1. The agenda read as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Participation of non-governmental organizations in the work of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing.
4. Existing international framework on the human rights of older persons and identification of existing gaps at the international level.
5. Other matters.
6. Provisional agenda for the seventh working session of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing.
7. Adoption of the report.

7. At the same meeting, the Working Group approved the proposed organization of work for its sixth working session, as set out in an informal paper, in English only.

E. Participation of non-governmental organizations in the work of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing

8. At its 1st meeting, on 14 July 2015, the Working Group decided to approve the participation of the following 12 non-governmental organizations in its work: Care Rights; Dave Omokaro Foundation; Federación Iberoamericana de Asociaciones de Personas Adultas Mayores (FIAPAM); Fundación Navarro Viola; Fundación Oportunidad Mayor; Global Salvation Ministry Foundation; HelpAge Kenya; Saldarriaga Concha Foundation; SEG Civil Society Support Center; The Centre for Gerontological Studies; Turkey Retired Persons Organization; and Vietnam Association of the Elderly.

9. At the same meeting, the Working Group proceeded to consider, in accordance with paragraph c (ii) of the decision entitled "Modalities of participation of non-governmental organizations in the work of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing", contained in section F of document A/AC.278/2011/2, the application of the non-governmental organization El Wedad Society for Community Rehabilitation, for which an objection letter from a Member State was received.

10. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Israel and the United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the Arab Group).

11. The representative of the United States of America moved, in accordance with Rule 116 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, to postpone the consideration of the application until Thursday, 16 July 2015.

12. Statements in favour of the motion were made by the representatives of Canada and Israel; statements against the motion were made by the representatives of Kuwait and Egypt.

13. Also at the first meeting, on 14 July, the Working Group, by a recorded vote of 6 to 31, with 54 abstentions, rejected the motion to adjourn the debate. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Canada, Central African Republic, Guatemala, Israel, Singapore, United States of America

Against:

Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritius, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Qatar, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe

Abstention:

Afghanistan, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, China, Colombia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea,[1] Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Togo, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

14. At the first meeting, on 14 July, the Working Group then approved the participation of the non-governmental organization El-Wedad Society for Community Rehabilitation in its work, by a recorded vote of 73 to 2 with 16 abstentions. The voting was as follows:[2]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe

Against:

Canada, Israel

[1] The delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea subsequently indicated that it had intended to vote against.

[2] The delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic indicated that they had intended to vote in favour.

Abstain:

Australia, Central African Republic, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Ghana, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Mozambique, Panama, Philippines, Singapore, Togo, Uganda, United States of America

15. After the vote, a statement in explanation of vote was made by the representative of Singapore.

F. Existing international framework on the human rights of older persons and identification of existing gaps at the international level

16. In accordance with resolution 69/146, the Chair (Argentina) invited Member States, in a letter dated 19 May 2015, to contribute to the work of the Working Group by "presenting concrete proposals, practical measures, best practices and lessons learned that will contribute to promoting and protecting the rights and dignity of older persons". The contributions by Member States are posted at the following link: http://social.un.org/ageing-working-group/sixtsession-proposals.shtml.

[*To be completed*]

G. Adoption of the report

17. At its 1st meeting, on 14 July, the Working Group was informed that the Chair's summary of the key points of the sixth working session would be finalized at a later stage by the Secretariat in collaboration with the Bureau and would be included in the report.

18. At its ___ meeting, on ___ July, the Working Group adopted the draft report on its sixth working session, as contained in document A/AC.278/2015/L.1.

H. Documentation

19. The list of documents before the Working Group at its sixth working session is available from http://social.un.org/ageing-working-group/sixthsession.shtml.